

the weighty arguments against as well as in favour of granting this application before coming to a conclusion about it. It is greatly to be hoped, however, that it will then come to a definite decision, one way or the other, without further delay, that will enable us to know whether we should call the genus containing *A. lacustris* (Linnaeus) *Ancylus* Müller or *Acroloxus* Beck, that containing *A. fluviatilis* *Ancylus* Müller, *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat or *Pseudancylus* Walker, and that containing *A. cumingianus* Bourguignat *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat or *Tasmancylus* Iredale.

RECEIVED

24 JUL 1952

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE ON THE PROPOSAL THAT THE GENERIC NAMES "ANCYLUS" MÜLLER (O.F.), 1774, AND "ACROLOXUS" BECK, 1837 (CLASS GASTROPODA) SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY": SUPPORT FOR DR. BENGT HUBENDICK'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE PLENARY POWERS SHOULD BE USED TO VALIDATE THE USE OF THE FORMER OF THE ABOVE NAMES IN ITS ACCUSTOMED SENSE

By A. E. ELLIS

(Epsom College, Surrey, England)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)240)

(Enclosure to letter dated 5th June 1951)

In my application Z.N.(S.)470 (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2: 119-125) for the addition to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* of the names of certain non-marine genera of the Phylum Mollusca, I included a request that there should be added to the List (1) the name *Ancylus* Müller (O.F.), 1774 (type species, by selection by Gray (1847): *Ancylus fluviatilis* Müller (O.F.), 1774) and (2) the name *Acroloxus* Beck, 1837 (type species, by selection by Herrmannsen (1846): *Patella lacustris* Linnaeus, 1758). Since the publication of the foregoing application my attention has been drawn to the fact that, prior to the selection by Gray in 1847 of *Ancylus fluviatilis* Müller, 1774, as the type species of *Ancylus* Müller, 1774, Children in 1823 (*Quart. J. Sci.* 15: 231) had selected *Patella lacustris* Linnaeus, 1758 (the second of the two nominal species cited by Müller in 1774 under the generic name *Ancylus*) to be the type species of the genus *Ancylus* Müller.

2. Children's action in this matter, which I regret I overlooked, makes it necessary to re-examine this case, since, under a strict application of the *Règles*, it would be necessary to transfer the generic name *Ancylus* Müller from the genus for which it is so well-known to the genus equally well-known under the name *Acroloxus* Beck, 1837. In addition, it would be necessary to find a new term in place of the term "*Ancylus* Lake" to denote the stage in the history of the Baltic Sea at present known by that term by reason of the occurrence of *Ancylus*, as typified by *A. fluviatilis* Müller, in that area during the portion of the Pleistocene concerned.

3. As will immediately be obvious, such changes could not fail to give rise to confusion, affecting, as they would, the nomenclature both of living and fossil forms, and also general geological literature. I understand that on these grounds Dr. Bengt Hubendick of the University of Uppsala has requested the International Commission to prevent this confusion from arising by using its plenary powers to set aside Children's (1823) selection of *Patella lacustris* Linnaeus, 1758, as the type species of *Ancylus* Müller, 1774, and itself to designate *Ancylus fluviatilis* Müller, 1774, to be the type species of this genus. This is precisely the action which, in my opinion, is required if serious and unnecessary confusion and name-changing is to be avoided in this case. I accordingly desire to support Dr. Hubendick's recommendation that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should use its plenary powers in the manner proposed.